<u>**Amendments to the Claims:**</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

<u>**Listing of Claims:**</u>

1.   (currently amended) A device driving system implemented in a computer and configured for driving at least one hardware device of predetermined functionality from an operating system (of the computer) that communicates with an installed driver for said hardware device, the device driving system comprising:

additional driver means interposed between the operating system and the installed driver and configured to interface directly with at least said operating system, the additional driver means configured to enable operation of at least one further hardware device of functionality differing from said predetermined functionality and unsupported by said operating system, <u>the additional driver means further configured to communicate with said operating system in the same manner that the installed driver is configured to communicate with said operating system in the absence of the additional driver means</u>.

2. (previously presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein the additional driver means is also configured to interface directly with said installed driver, thereby enabling continued and unchanged use of said at least one hardware device of predetermined functionality.

3. (previously presented) The system according to claim 2 wherein the said additional driver means is additionally configured to interface with a further driver which is configured to drive an additional hardware device.

4. (previously presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein the said additional driver means is additionally configured to interface with a further driver which is configured to drive an additional hardware device.

5. (previously presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein said at least one hardware device comprise audio devices.

6. (previously presented) The system according to claim 4 wherein said at least one hardware device comprises USB audio hardware and the additional device comprises hardware associated, with 3D positioning of sounds or environmental effects.

7. (previously presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein the operating system is the Windows operating system and the said installed driver comprises a Windows Driver Model (WDM) audio driver.

8. (currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to generate a supplemental device driver for positioning between an operating system and at least one installed <u>device</u> ~~audio~~ driver provided with the operating system and coupled to <u>a first hardware</u> ~~an audio card~~ device, said at least one installed <u>device</u> ~~audio~~ driver configured to be responsive to selected communications to cause the <u>first hardware</u> ~~audio card~~ device to demonstrate predetermined functionality envisaged by the operating system provider, the supplemental device driver configured to:

receive a first communications for an operation directly from the operating system at a first input interface between the operating system and the supplemental device driver; and

forward a second communication for the operation over a first output interface to a first of the at least one installed ~~audio~~ driver, wherein the second communication causes the driver to generate functionality envisaged by the operating system provider when the coupled <u>hardware device supports</u> ~~card is a USB audio card supporting~~ the predetermined functionality and to generate functionality not envisaged by the operating system provider when the coupled <u>hardware device</u> ~~audio card~~ has <u>3D positioning of sound</u> functionality that is beyond the predetermined functionality<u>;</u>

wherein the at least one driver comprises a second driver coupled to a second hardware device and the supplemental device driver is further configured to forward the second communication to the second driver; and

wherein the first hardware device has predetermined functionality envisaged by the operating system and the second hardware device has functionality beyond the predetermined functionality.

9. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for providing communications between an operating system and at least one installed device driver provided with the operating system and coupled to a first hardware device, a supplemental device driver interposed between the operating system and the installed device driver, said at least one installed driver configured to be responsive to selected communications to cause the first hardware device to demonstrate predetermined functionality envisaged by the operating system provider, the method comprising:

receiving a first communications for an operation directly from the operating system at a first input interface between the operating system and the supplemental device driver; and

forwarding a second communication for the operation over a first output interface to a first of the at least one installed driver, wherein the second communication causes the driver to generate functionality envisaged by the operating system provider when the coupled hardware device supports the predetermined functionality and to generate functionality not envisaged by the operating system provider when the coupled hardware device has functionality beyond the predetermined functionality;

wherein the at least one driver comprises a second driver coupled to a second hardware device and the supplemental device driver is further configured to forward the second communication to the second driver; and

wherein the first hardware device has predetermined functionality envisaged by the operating system and the second hardware device has functionality beyond the predetermined functionality.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 9 [[10]] wherein the first hardware device is a USB audio card ~~having predetermined functionality envisaged by the operating system~~ and the second hardware device comprises hardware associated with [[is]] 3D positioning of sounds ~~having functionality beyond the predetermined functionality~~.

12-13. (canceled)